(c) and (d) The National Health Policy, 2002 covers all aspects of health care and contains policy prescriptions regarding financial resources, equity, delivery of National Public Health Programmes, Public Health Infrastructure, Education of Health Care Professionals, Health Research, Role of various stakeholders—NGOs, civil society, Enforcement of quality standards for Food and Drugs, women's health etc. This Policy has been widely circulated both at the Centre and in the States upto the District level. Concerned organisations and State Governments have been advised to implement the new policy.

Winding up of CGHS dispensaries

6. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to wind up CGHS dispensaries in congested localities as several local doctors are available for consultation and restrict dispensaries to far-flung areas only where doctors are not available, especially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of plans made in this regard; and

(c) if not, how health care of people will be taken care of in far-flung rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) There is no proposal to wind up any CGHS dispensary in any locality.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) The Central Government Health Scheme facilities are primarily meant for the Central Government employees/pensioners, etc. who are concentrated in bigger cities and therefore the CGHS dispensaries are accordingly available only in such areas.

Supply of Oxygen in Kalavati Saran Children's Hospital

†7. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an attempt to kill dozens of new born babies/child patients was made by stopping supply of oxygen on the 1st June, 2002 in Kalavati Saran Children's Hospital;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government have taken any action against the culprits after making inquiries into the incident of shutting off the oxygen plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have ensured that the parents of the hospitalized children remain free from fear and such incident does not recur in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Immediately on detection of disruption in oxygen supply for around 4-5 minutes in Kalavati Saran Children's Hospital on 2-6-2002, in the early hours (2.30 A.M.), the oxygen cylinders available in the Wards/ Units were made operational to prevent any casualties. The disruption occurred due to negligence of the pipeline operator on duty in the centralized oxygen supply unit who was found in an inebriated condition. He was immediately placed under suspension. Besides, preliminary enquiry conducted by the Hospital Authorities has found him *prima facie* guilty resulting in departmental enquiry against him.

(d) and (e) To ensure that such incidents do not recur, it has been ensured that spare oxygen cylinders are available in the wards/units for use in any such emergencies of disruption of oxygen supply. Besides, a Chief Medical Officer has been deputed to monitor the functioning of the Manifold Room and to conduct surprise checks even at odd hours.

Options to CGHS beneficiaries

8. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to consider giving options to CGHS beneficiaries to consult reputed doctors locally and purchase medicines direct instead of visiting CGHS dispensaries where medicines prescribed are not available and doctors generally are not in their seats;

(b) if so, the plans made in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. The doctors are always present in the CGHS dispensaries and prescribed medicines are given to the beneficiaries from the dispensaries. The drugs which are not available are procured through local